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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
 Hongkong, 31st August, 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1888

ON THE RIALTO.

If there is one existing mystery in Hongkong which is really difficult to fathom, it is how the buzzing crowd of so-called brokers, whom one keeps jostling against in our main thoroughfare and elsewhere, manage to live. That they do live, and live well apparently, numerous as they are and small as must be their circle of patrons, is beyond all doubt. How numerous the fraternity are is rather difficult to say—they are always rushing about at too fast a pace to be accurately counted—but we see that a recent writer estimated their number at about sixty. That is probably too high an estimate—it would give one broker to every 3000 or so of the population, all sorts of Chinese included, and as not a tithe of that number are likely to have transactions through them it would come rather expensive on those who do. But let us say that there are forty brokers; forty is a good number, and is highly suggestive of that traditional Forty—Ait Bana and—the other parties. What sort of individuals are they? Thirty-five out of the number will answer, we venture to say, to one of the highly-esteemed patriarchal names; you can see Jerusalem in every one of their classical countenances. They are a goodly company, and as distinct from the rest of the Colony, as though the flags near the Clock Tower were their Ghetto; however keenly they may compete against each other, their common purpose of spoliation and the traditions of their race make them combine against unbelievers, and all others outside the pale. We hope this is not libellous; but market! There are perhaps a dozen honest, reliable, necessary men amongst the brokering fraternity—who are the rest? Unprepossessing, over-shrewd, insidious, and, we regret to say, unscrupulous individuals, men of straw, living on the scraps which the dozen good men and true let pass, without offices, without capital, without anything except the energy to work like niggers and the ability to beguile anybody weak enough to get into their clutches and wealthy enough to make the game worth the candle.

It is worth while losing an hour any day to sit in the corridor of the Queen's Road entrance to our principal hotel, or to stroll about under the arcade, and watch the busy bees at work. What the keen observer would see would be something like this:—First a sallow young man saunters up towards the bar; as though he were going to have a quiet refresher all by himself. He goes to the gas jet, lights a cigarette and saunters out again. The sallow young man is a budding broker. A more imposing member of the profession waddles up hastily a minute or two later; he is well, even elaborately dressed, looks as though he would be good for twenty-five cents to the Hotel receipts and—yes! he's going into the bar. No, he stopped just short; he has come to see if there are any of his clients knocking about, and as there is nobody particular inside he strolls quietly back into the sunshine again. Hullo! still another. Here's business; see the next man striding up at a five mile gait, with important commissions sticking out of his coat every way. Shouldn't wonder if he calls for a small bottle. Ah! he's stopped at the desk; he reaches for a sheet of Hotel paper, selects a pen, stoops over the counter, and begins to write. He finishes the note, and—now for the small bottle! "Is zere a cooile can take zis chit?" he asks the clerk, who is giving some information to a boarder. He is genily, but firmly, told that there is not, and—if he stayed to listen, which he is too busy to do—he might hear an additional remark to the effect that if he waited till there was a couple to do his dirty work he would be as old as some of those prime old progenitors of his—METHULAH for instance. But

he is away, without even a "thank ye," or signing for a drink. A couple of piratical looking cruisers next loom on the horizon, gesticulating. Orientally as they advance. A gentleman crosses them to go upstairs. "Ah! Mister So-and-So," one of the corsairs shouts loudly, and they hurry after him as though they were hastening to tell him he had come into a million dollars. Such secrecy, such suppressed vehemence! They are asking for a job, that is all. Mister So-and-So shakes his head and quietly extricates himself from them—he does not credit their story of an impending "boom" in the Amalgamated Billygoat Co., and back they come, and sit down in the hall to continue their interesting conversation. But outside the door the broker genus is more numerous. One at the corner, with a turban on, is speaking in bland tones with a clerk of a local joint stock company whom he has intercepted. The clerk gets about \$150 a month; he doesn't know the difference between contango and cremation, and couldn't honestly pay the cover on a five hundred dollar transaction. What then can the persuasive Mahomedan hope to make out of him? He must surely expect to get something! Listen to him. "Do business, sar; by gar, six months' time you will be rich man." If he agrees to "do business," to be honest and plain spoken, he will probably end in taking a passage out of the colony in somebody else's name before the six months are over. But the broker will have "done business"—he won't have lost anything—at least, anything worth losing. But there are lots more of the fraternity round the door; they are so thick that if you threw a stick at a dog and missed it, you would probably have three brokers. They cluster at the Hotel entrance like the Peri of their national highblown poetry round the gates of Paradise. To see them line the step, enjoying a light breakfast or tiffin off their toothpicks, and puffing their cigarettes, one would think they lived like lords at the admittedly most gorgeous hotel in the Far East. But the Hongkong Hotel didn't pay a dividend of four per cent for the past half year off these gentry by any manner of means. It is amusing to watch the demeanour of the craft when together. When inveighing against the Gentile thiffrontery and "blarney" are unlimited, but see their attitude one to another. The more successful leviathans swell out as they "bloy" about their vast transactions, whilst the younger and shabbier hangers-on listen with an air of conciliatory respect very different from their usual demeanour. The different groups are gabbling in Hebrew, Arabic, Hindustani, Portuguese, Chinese, and English; they are, to paraphrase a hackneyed quotation, "forty talking like one, all noisy, and all damned." What use are they? They simply live by promoting a most unhealthy and dishonest spirit of pernicious gambling; they produce nothing, from an economical point of view; they do not even sell anything, but merely exist by carrying to "B" what "A" has sometimes—not always—sold to him, and vice versa. The legitimate brokerage required by the score of public companies here could be efficiently done by half a dozen sworn brokers. What *raison d'être* have these two-legged jackals? There are a hundred reasons for their non-existence, at least as brokers. One 'good reason' is working out his sentence in Victoria Gaol at the present time, and it would be interesting to know his opinion of this daily increasing and most undesirable fraternity. The colony can do without these touts and croupiers of the gambling wheel of Shares; but until the Chamber of Commerce actively moves in the matter, and a regular Stock Exchange, open only to men with capital and integrity, has been created, we shall still have to lament their existence.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter.)

THE GERMAN NAVY.

LONDON, September 10th.

It is reported that Germany intends to increase her Navy.

AMERICA AND THE CHINESE.

The Senate has passed the Chinese Immigration bill.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S MANIFESTO.

The electoral manifesto of President Cleveland advocates a reduction of the tariff and recommends legislation to restrict the influx of unskilled cheap labour.

(From Straits Times.)

THE UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, September 1st.

A bill has been presented to Congress embodying the reprisals in the sense of President Cleveland's message (regarding the Canadian Fisheries question).

The Sugar Convention has been signed.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The meeting of the Legislative Council, which was to be held on the 13th inst., has been postponed until further notice.

A JAPANESE contemporary states that the Kobe Electric Light Company will be ready to commence operations in a few days.

We are informed by the agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.) that the "Glen" liner *Glenyle*, from London, left Singapore yesterday afternoon for this port.

FROM an advertisement in another column it will be seen that Lady Des Vaux will be unable to receive visitors at Mountain Lodge on Saturday next, the 15th inst.

It is stated that there are at present 146 public companies of various descriptions established in Kobe and Hyogo. Their aggregate nominal capital is 12,906,444 yen.

We read that Messrs. Scott and Co., ship-builders, Greenock, have secured an order to build an iron barge of between 400 and 500 tons for service on the coast of China.

THERE are at present in Kobe, according to the latest official statistics, 265 persons owning jirikishas, and 2,359 jirikisha coolies. Kobe can also boast of 148 public bath-houses and 175 pawn-shops.

THE new dredger, *Solega Maru*, built by Messrs. Simons and Co., Renfrew, left the Clyde on the 5th August after adjusting compasses, for Japan, under the charge of Captain McDougall, Greenock.

THE barque *Emu*, of London, which arrived at Hongkong on the 5th August from Hong Kong, reports having experienced very heavy weather, and that she was obliged to make one or two sacrifices in the general interest.

IN a note on the progress of British North Borneo *The Times* concludes:—The country now enjoys all the advantages of a settled Government; the laws are based on those of India; offices, barracks, hospitals, jails, wharves, are in every station. Tribal feuds are becoming things of the past; explorers have been sent out in all directions, payable alluvial goldfields have been found on the Segama river, coal measures exist in the southern province, but up to the present only the agricultural wealth of the territory is being developed. The revenue is derived from duties on opium, tobacco, and salt, and export duty on produce and excise, fees and rents. The soil and climate have been proved to be well adapted for the cultivation of tobacco, coffee, pepper, sugar and other tropical products. North Borneo tobacco is now a successful competitor with that from Sumatra; five companies are planting tobacco now, and by 1889 it is anticipated that this number will be increased to twenty. The forests produce the finest known woods, including the famous billan, and the export of timber to China is increasing. Chinese planters, miners, merchants, shop-keepers, and labourers are free to come and go as they please.

YESTERDAY'S number of that rancid semi-official publication which sees the light of day every week in the neighbouring Portuguese colony contains an apology for an article in defence of Governor da Costa's recent refusal to accede to the petition made by a group of respectable citizens, requesting the removal of the cholera lazarettes from the City. The request was made when cholera was raging and laying low numerous victims at the Caillias and Green Island lazarettes, and any Government but that of effete Portugal would have promptly acquiesced in the just wishes of a panic-stricken community. Governor da Costa thought otherwise; instead of persons settling to the Board of Health, and after a few days had elapsed, acting on the information and advice of that ridiculous corporation, he flatly refused to grant the removal of the lazarettes. It is a standing wonder to us how a body of independent citizens can quietly allow themselves to be driven like dumb cattle by a Colonial Governor who publicly and most offensively declines to take their interests to heart. Had these facts taken place in Hongkong, or in any other civilised and independent colony, we are sure the poor self-deluded autocrat would very quickly have found out his mistake. But not so in Macao. The Governor of a Portuguese colony is a veritable Czar of all the Russias. The people who allow such entities to domineer over them in such an arbitrary and unconstitutional fashion, are surely entitled to the general commiseration of the world at large. The decay and hopelessness which reign over the neighbouring colony are the direct effects of Portuguese misrule and thick-headed despotism. It is to be hoped the rising generation of the Holy City will some day shake themselves free from the inglorious yoke under which they live and groan.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing to the *Manchester Guardian* on the neglect of Manila, remarks *inter alia*:—There are lines of tramway to all the principal suburbs of Manila, and in the morning and evening they are crowded; but they do not pay, and probably never will pay. Competing with the tramways upon the various routes are also what are called the "express" coaches, drawn by four horses, with postillions and bells, the most grotesque contrivance altogether that can well be imagined. These also do not pay. The caromata is what may be called the camel of Manila. It is a two-wheeled vehicle, with a leather or tin top supported on four poles for a roof, and leather flaps for the sides and back, to screen the weary traveller from the sun or rain (neither of which ends they accomplish), and drawn in most cases by the most wretched, emaciated-looking donkeys. The ability of the animal to go must, not however, be judged by his personal appearance. It is, in fact, not unfrequently in an inverse ratio. The act of getting into and out of a caromata after heavy rain without raising in one's personal apparel the appearance of having had a lie down in the road demands much study, and the mind will remain divided as to whether the wheel or the roof is in its proper place. The roof is frequently too low, for it will not be forgotten in Manila how the gallant Colonel now commanding the 58th Regiment in Hongkong, and who cannot be less than 6 ft. 6 in. in height, was compelled during his travels in the Philippines to discard the roof and sit with his head projecting through the top of the vehicle, and protected only by an umbrella. If it is a question in Manila, as between the caromata and the tramcars, of the survival of the fittest, then the tramcars will have to go to the wall, for the caromata and the cry—between a griffin and a yell—peculiar to its driver when urging his speed on its tortuous course, are alike dear to the native.

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. courteously informs us that the steamship *Verona*, with the next English mail, left Singapore for this port yesterday at 2 p.m.

A HYOGO vernacular print, the *Shinonome Shinbun*, learns from an official report that a strange disease prevails at present among the inhabitants of two islands of Okinawa Ken, about 25 miles south of Naha. The sufferers come out in black spots, and many deaths have taken place.

THE religious Christian Editor of the *China Mail* says that the only remedy for beggars who drift back to the colony after having been sent home, would be a smart punishment in the form of a few strokes with the rattan. Fortunately the ordinances of the colony do not provide for, nor do they sanction, the brutalities suggested by this merciful disciple of an obsolete creed. It is also fortunate that nobody of any account takes more than a passing notice of the canting hypocrisy of an illiterate "blatherskite."

THE Vienna correspondent of *The Times* telegraphs on Aug. 5:—Monsignor Semprini, Vicar-Apostolic of Hunan, has arrived in Vienna from China. He tells me that the Chinese authorities in Hunan, which will be remembered was opened to foreigners in 1884, are as a rule trying honestly to do their duty and to protect the European traders, but that on some occasions they have to yield to the feeling of aversion to the foreign invaders which still prevails among the natives. As to the missionary work, he does not think it is very successful. The Bibles distributed among the people are turned by them into slippers, and among the adults, scarcely any real conversions take place. The Roman Catholic Mission has, therefore, restricted its labours to the children abandoned by their poor parents. About 700 of these unfortunate children are now under the charge of the Mission, which but for want of funds could collect as many thousands.

A RECENT issue of the *Etudes Religieuses* contains some interesting statistics of the number and distribution of the Jesuit missionaries abroad at the commencement of the present year. In Asia, especially Armenia, Syria, certain parts of India, and parts of China there are 699. In China alone the number is 195, all of French nationality. In Oceania, including the Philippines, the Malay Archipelago, Australia, and New Zealand, the number is 270. In an illimitable field like China all the orders are represented, but the districts of each are specified, and were re-arranged about eighteen months ago. The Jesuits have Kiangsu province and the south-eastern part of Chili, the metropolitan province. They have 145 fathers in the former, and fifty in the latter district. In such places as Japan, the Malay Peninsula, Siberia, Indo-China (Burma, Tong-King, Siam, Annam) they are not found at all. The great centres of Jesuit missionary activity on the surface of the globe are the Zambesi, Syria (where there are 142 French Jesuits), Bengal, Kiangsu province in China, the Philippine Archipelago, the Central States of the Union (here they are all German Jesuits), Central America and Cuba, Ecuador and Peru, Chili, and Paraguay.

FOR unparalleled credulity, or impudent audacity—it does not matter very much which is the real quality—the so-called intelligent Chinese beas creation. No better example of this could be cited than a statement made in the Supreme Court to-day by a Chinese gentleman named Lai Kit, the defendant in the Salt "Corner" case. Mr. Lai Kit is a Chinese banker, and no doubt, from his position, a leading and influential member of the Chinese community. He has been in Hongkong for twenty years, and the whole of that time engaged in the banking business. And yet, notwithstanding what must have been an extensive experience of foreigners in this colony, Mr. Lai Kit naively stated in the witness box that he had been informed by his friends (and implied that he had believed) that the salt was a monopoly of the Government. Mr. Fraser-Smith, editor of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, was a person invested with such high authority and of such great influence that he could calmly go up to Peking and hob-nob with the Emperor without ceremony, had a free and special *entree* to the *yamen* of His Excellency the Viceroy of Canton as if it were a public hotel, was paid \$1,000 per annum by the Governor of Hongkong for letting that official down easily in his paper, could induce the British Consul at Canton to do anything he liked for a consideration, had been offered but had refused the Registrar Generalship of his colony and that the present incumbent of that position acted under his orders, was a full-fledged barrister who did not practise law because he could "squeeze" far more money out of his newspaper, and a lot more hair-raising atrocities which our reporter has not set out at length. Mr. Lai Kit, banker in Hongkong for over twenty years, must either be an arrant rogue or a consummate fool. We have no hesitation in saying that, in our opinion, he is both.

SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before the Hon. F. Russell, Acting Chief Justice.)

THE "SALT" CORNER.

The hearing of this case was resumed this morning. Mr. Francis first called—
 Li Cheuk Koon, the second defendant in the case. He said that in December last he entered the Yee On Wo firm, of which Lai Kit was the capitalist. His *joik*, U Yin Hing, Lui Hon Po, Mr. Fraser-Smith, and others were partners. They were to speculate in salt, the shares being allotted as follows: Lai Kit and his partner to find the money, and the rest to "put their bodies in"—work without wages. The capitalists were to have 6-10ths, witness and the rest of the partners in the Nam Cheung Yee 2-10ths amongst them, and Mr. Fraser-Smith 2-10ths. About the 25th January Mr. Fraser-Smith, witness, and Lui Hon Po, went to Canton. They saw Mr. Pittman, and had an interview with the Salt Commissioners' official, who gave them permission to stop salt smuggling. After that they came back and purchased salt. Lai Kit bought about 80,000 piculs, and witness bought 30,000 piculs from the Salt Fish market at West Point, at 2 piculs 30 catty per picul. He paid for it with money he received from Lai Po. Later on Lai Po told him he had sold some of the salt for 3 piculs per picul. The salt had been bought on behalf of the Yee On Wo firm, but Lai Po had not given any account of what it was sold for, or to whom. Witness's expenses in

connection with the undertaking amounted to several hundred dollars.

By the Attorney-General:—He got no commission on the purchase of the 30,000 piculs. He did not receive 21 taels 6 mace in March, or 56 taels on another occasion. He paid the money for the salt in two instalments, and got receipts, which he gave to Lai Kit.

By Mr. Francis:—When the Nam Cheung Yee got their two-tenths they would divide it as they liked.

By his lordship:—The 30,000 piculs he bought were stored at Yau-ma-tei; he inspected it there.

That completed the case for the defendants on the counter-claim.

The Attorney-General, for the plaintiffs, said their case was substantially a denial to the one suggested so ingeniously by the defendants. There was no question about the fact that there was between these parties—Lai Cheuk on the one hand and Cheuk Koon and Choo Hing, and possibly U Yin Hing, on the other—an intention to profit by the suggestion which originated with one of them—it was not quite clear which, probably Choo Hing—to speculate in—"corner"—salt. It was proposed by one of them that some European of reputation should be taken to assist them in corrupting the Commissioner of Customs. Mr. Fraser-Smith's name appeared to have been mentioned amongst them, but, as he very frankly stated, he thought that idea not a very wise one, or one he could have anything to do with. Therefore he exercised what must look upon as the more legitimate form of influence to bring some steam-launches to bear upon the Commissioner. With a view to making some profit out of the transaction that functionary was willing to lend what legitimate assistance he could, in stopping salt smuggling. There was a meeting, there were negotiations, and there was a dinner, at which the scheme was to a certain extent sketched out and put in train. His case was that there were no final or definite arrangements come to between the parties, and it was not intended, as far as the salt part of the business was concerned, that anything should be done, or any partnership finally constituted, until the Commissioner's arrangements with regard to steam-launches and the Commissioner of Customs had been arranged. There was, no final arrangement completed. What really happened was this:—At the dinner, whilst the contemplated partnership was yet inchoate, Lai Kit represented to the last witness that he knew of a large stock of salt for sale, and that he had some thoughts of buying it. As a matter of fact he did not buy it, as it would be proved that the salt was not for sale. That was his client's story. It was on all-fours with Mr. Fraser-Smith's statement of what Lai Kit said to him. He (Lai Kit) said something about the purchase of 70 or 80,000 piculs of salt. I do not know whether he purchased it or not. I understood that he did. They say that he did not vouch with any amount of precision as to the fact; he could not say whether he bought the salt or not. It was to be remembered, too, that their conversation was conducted through one of the present defendants. His case was that he never did buy the salt, that he dealt openly with Li Cheuk Koon when he heard of stores of salt, saying that he knew of 80,000 piculs of salt and wanted to buy it, although in point of fact he was afterwards unable to do so. He regarded it as a good piece of business. He mentioned their existence and suggested that he should buy them for himself, and afterwards, if a partnership was formed, re-sell to them at the same price. That was dependent on their getting hold of the Chinese Commissioner. He acted upon that suggestion and he bought it in the name of the Yee On Wo, which was the only transaction that ever took place under that name. It was carried out purely for his own benefit, the name Yee On Wo not having even been thought of by the rest of the parties, who, on the contrary, were going to call the firm the Lun Cheung Yee.

Li Cheuk Koon mentioned their existence and suggested that he should buy them for himself, and afterwards, if a partnership was formed, re-sell to them at the same price. That was dependent on their getting hold of the Chinese Commissioner. He acted upon that suggestion and he bought it in the name of the Yee On Wo, which was the only transaction that ever took place under that name. It was carried out purely for his own benefit, the name Yee On Wo not having even been thought of by the rest of the parties, who, on the contrary, were going to call the firm the Lun Cheung Yee. Li Cheuk Koon received a commission on the transaction. It followed that if he did so he was incoherently acting in contravention of the principle that had been alleged by him and his partners, that the basis of the partnership was that they were to make nothing themselves out of these transactions, but to share the profits. That was the only transaction which took place in connection with the prospective partnership. The enterprise was undoubtedly arranged, but nothing was finally settled on completely carried out. He then called.

Li Cheuk, otherwise Lai Kit, one of the plaintiffs, and partner of the Sun Mo native bank, who said:—I know Li Cheuk Koon, a defendant, and U Yin Hing, his *joik*. I remember a conversation I had with the former in December last about salt speculation. He came and spoke to me about it. Several days later I and several others met at dinner, and arranged a scheme for dealing in salt. The Commissioner of Customs at Canton ought to have been there, but was prevented. I expressed a doubt as to whether the scheme would be successful, but U Yin Hing and Li Cheuk Koon said it was sure to be. They said we must get a good European, and he could ask the Salt Commissioner to let them have a steamer to stop smuggling, and then, having bought a supply of salt, it would sell at a big profit. I said when all was settled I would make a written agreement, but that just then it was premature. I said perhaps the Commissioner of Customs had been changed, but they replied "No fear," adding that Mr. Fraser-Smith knew them all, and was a man of great influence, justice, and the great man who could go to the Governor's presence. They also said that the Governor gave him \$1000 a year for him to use, and that if he did not Mr. Fraser-Smith would write in the papers to his discredit. They further told me that Mr. Fraser-Smith was a barrister, though he did not practise. After that we dined. I have partners in my bank; I had no authority from them to enter upon this scheme. I remember Mr. Fraser-Smith and others going to Canton; I saw them afterwards. Nothing came of the purchases of the two steamers; no agreement was ever drawn up about the salt speculation. I was looking about for salt to buy. I heard of some at the Su Shin shop, where they deal in it. About the beginning of February a broker told me they had 80,000 piculs to sell, and I mentioned it to Li Cheuk Koon. We went to see Mr. Fraser-Smith about it. I did not tell him that I had bought it; I had not, because it was not for sale. Li Cheuk Koon told me he knew of 30,000 piculs at West Point, and advised me to buy it. I told him to find out the price, and when he told me what it was I told him to go and buy it in my name. The proposed firm had not been named the Yee On Wo; the name had not been suggested. The bargain money on the purchase was paid on the 5th February, and a receipt given to me. The balance was paid some days later.

By Mr. Francis:—I have been twenty years in Hongkong. I have not, and never had, any business but banking, and have a sixth share in the bank. I first used the name Yee On Wo when I bought the salt; I had not used it before, nor have I used it since. I did not know Mr. Fraser-Smith before the dinner in December, but have been to see him six or seven times since. At the dinner nothing was said about Mr. Fraser-Smith going to Canton. I did not recommend that he and Li Cheuk Koon should go to Canton, nor did I agree to pay their expenses. Mr. Fraser-Smith was to get 2-10ths of the profits, the Commissioner of Customs 1-10th, the Li Cheuk

Koon and his shop 1-10th between them, and I was to get the other 5-10ths. It was not arranged that we should ask the Salt Commissioner to send out gunboats to stop salt-smuggling; it was the Commissioner of Customs. I do not know that the Commissioner of Customs at Kowloon has nothing to do with salt. Mr. Fraser-Smith told me so, I remember. I did not know how we were to raise the price of salt. A day or two later I was told that the captain of the *Chai-fung* had authority to stop smuggling, and I agreed to Mr. Fraser-Smith going up to find him. I said if we bought too much people would be unwilling to sell, and if we bought too little it would not pay. Mr. Fraser-Smith said we ought to buy 8-10ths or 9-10ths of all the stock in Hongkong. I told him not to send the gunboat too soon, as we wanted to get some more salt into the colony before we put a stop to the smuggling. I understood that they would try to get two gunboats sent down, one to guard each end of the harbour, and I agreed to pay \$20,000 for two launches that the Commissioner had for sale. One was to be a passenger or cargo boat, to go anywhere. They were independent of the salt scheme. If they were successful it was agreed that Mr. Fraser-Smith should put \$4,000 into them and I \$6,000. He said that \$9,500 was their real price, but we had to give the English Consul \$500. He asked me to give him the money next day, but I refused until the launches were in Hongkong and all settled. He said that was no use; he would not trust us Chinese. I refused to deposit the money in the Chartered Bank, but agreed to hand it to Mr. Denny—several had been made, and altered—but it was not signed. An agreement was also drawn up about the Yee On Wo. It was agreed that the boats were to be purchased in the name of the Loong Wo On. It was also agreed that no salt was to be bought until Mr. Fraser-Smith received a telegram from Canton that it was all right. I was told that I should then get an official document authorising me to seize smugglers. Mr. Fraser-Smith told me the authority had come, and I told Li Cheuk Koon about that time. None of the salt that had been bought was sold until this week; I never told anyone I had sold it at three piculs a picul. I sold about half of it this week, at 3 piculs 25 catty, 3-10, and 3-8 per picul. I could not have sold it better prices since I bought it. Mr. Fraser-Smith at first agreed to be a partner in the ownership of the boats, but afterwards it was agreed that he should get \$2,000, as bonus for purchasing them. He would not have been a partner in the salt firm, except the operations were for a large amount. Then he was to get 2-10th bonus; he was not a partner. The defendants were not partners either, they only got a bonus. I did not give them any bonus because I lost out on the transaction; I have not sold out. I was the sole owner.

By the Court:—I contracted to buy 30,000 piculs, but the salt has not been weighed yet. I paid \$7,700. The salt is in eleven godowns; I have sold the contents of five godowns. I have lost on it in expenses, rent, melting of the salt, &c. Salt loses eight catty per picul in a year.

Leung Sheu, partner in the last witness's bank, gave evidence in support.

Li Lung, salt merchant, said that he sold 30,000 piculs to Li Cheuk Koon, at 3 piculs 10 catty per picul. He gave him a card index in each dollar as "cushion" for the purchase of salt.

Low Wah, broker, stated that he acted for Lai Kit in overtures for the purchase of 80,000 piculs. The purchase was not effected, as the persons who held it were afraid.

That closed the case for the plaintiffs.

The Attorney-General, in summing up, submitted that the defendants were bound, if their counterclaim was to avail them as a defence, to prove partnership strictly as set forth in their statement. He submitted that that had not been proved. The parties had met and discussed a project, but no final arrangement, such as would constitute partnership, had been made. It was arranged that when all was settled a document should be signed by the parties, but Lai Cheuk always refused to sign—he was not satisfied, and there was nothing binding on any of them. Lai Cheuk was a partner in a banking firm, but there was no evidence that his partners had given him permission to embark them in any such enterprise. The evidence as to who were partners was very conflicting, and altogether there was nothing to show that any real partnership existed.

Mr. Francis submitted that the evidence given by Mr. Fraser-Smith had conclusively shown that a partnership existed, if not between the whole of the plaintiffs and the defendants, at least between the principal plaintiff and the defendants. It was a very curious transaction altogether, and helped to throw a good deal of light on many things that had occurred in the Colony, showing that the Customs were not entirely to blame for the trouble they had given. He then reviewed the evidence, which, he said, supported Mr. Fraser-Smith's account of the transaction. In conclusion he said that Mr. Fraser-Smith could only be entitled to a bonus, and not a share.

His lordship said that he was in the same position as the other members of the firm.

Mr. Francis applied that, if the Court found for the plaintiffs on the counterclaim, leave should be given to add the name of Mr. Fraser-Smith to the counterclaim, and a decree granted as against Lai Kit.

His lordship asked what the position of the defendants would be if it was found that Lai Kit had actually lost on the transaction admitted.

Mr. Francis pointed out that all he had attempted to show was partnership in a partnership, without trying to show that the business took place. If the question of profits was referred to the Registrar material evidence could be adduced with regard to the 80,000 piculs.

The Attorney-General opposed the proposed amendment.

His lordship said that he would do justice, and deferred judgment till Friday.

THE WEST RIVER.

The news originally published by the *Chinese Times* as to the probable opening of the West River to foreign trade and navigation is of the highest importance to the port of Hongkong. There is no other distributing centre of trade, always excepting Macao, nearer the consuming and exporting markets which lie on the banks of the West River than this colony. Macao is situated almost at the mouth of the West River and is therefore in close contact with the localities likely to become prominent trading emporiums, but it must be admitted that the neighbouring Portuguese colony is neither able to supply the new markets with the commodities they may require, nor to re-export to Europe and the world the native products grown or manufactured along the banks of that immense waterway. Had Macao a suitable harbour, and Portugal ships and steamers in sufficient numbers to run to and from its centennial colony, the opening of the West River would have been in itself a sufficient motor to transform more arid with a magic wand, the old dead-end sloughy into a flourishing emporium of trade. As, however, the immediate European settlement between the proposed new markets and the colony of Hongkong is, to all purposes, a useless factor in the problem, it follows that our colony is the only point that can and will benefit by the opening of that vast, though not very deep waterway, which, starting from the delta of

and from Steamers, Picnic and Bathing Parties, etc.
For particulars, apply to
CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 17th August, 1888. [80]

Commercial.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—153 per cent. premium, sellers.

Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$90 per share, sellers.

China Traders' Insurance Company—\$68 per share, sellers.

North China Insurance—Tls. 285 per share, buyers.

Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$95 per share, buyers.

Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 80 per share, sellers.

Chinese Insurance Company—\$175 per share, buyers.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150, per share, sellers.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$345 per share, sellers.

China Fire Insurance Company—\$78 per share, sellers.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, 33 1/2 per cent. premium, sales and sellers.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$220 per share, sales.

China and Manila Steam Ship Company—117 per share, buyers.

Hongkong Gas Company—\$135 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Hotel Company—\$175 per share, sellers.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—30 per cent. div. sales.

Douglas Steamship Company—\$60 per share, sellers.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$186 per share, buyers.

Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$69 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Ice Company—\$78 per share, sellers.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$80 per share.

Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$13 per share, sellers.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—100 per cent. premium, div. sales.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 A—2 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—9 per cent. premium, buyers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—11 per cent. premium.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company Limited—\$75 per share, sellers.

Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$5 per share, nominal.

Punjom and Sanghie Samantan Mining Co.—\$12 per share, sellers.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—61 per cent. premium, sellers.

Tongkoo Coal Mining Co.—65 per cent. premium, buyers.

The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—325 per cent. premium, sellers.

The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$45 per share, sellers.

Cruickshank & Co. Ltd.—\$60 per share, sellers.

ON LONDON.—Bank T. T.

Bank Bills, on demand.....3/04

Bank Bills, at 30 days sight.....3/02

Bank Bills, at 60 days sight.....3/01

Credits at 4 months sight.....3/11

Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight.....3/11

ON PARIS.—Bank T. T.

Bank Bills, on demand.....3/86

Credits at 4 months sight.....3/94

ON INDIA, T. T.2233

On Demand.....224

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank T. T.721

Private, 30 days sight.....722

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank T. T.3/04

Bank Bills, on demand.....3/02

Bank Bills, at 30 days sight.....3/01

Credits at 4 months sight.....3/11

Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight.....3/11

ON PARIS.—Bank T. T.

Bank Bills, on demand.....3/86

Credits at 4 months sight.....3/94

ON INDIA, T. T.2233

On Demand.....224

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank T. T.721

Private, 30 days sight.....722

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank T. T.

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Credits at 4 months sight.....3/94

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Private, 30 days sight.....722

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ON INDIA, T. T.2233

On Demand.....224

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank T. T.721

Private, 30 days sight.....722

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The O. & O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Arabic*, with mails, &c., from San Francisco to the 21st ult., left Yokohama for this port on the 12th instant, at 6 p.m., and may be expected here on or about the 18th.

THE CANADIAN MAIL.

The Canadian Pacific steamer *Abyssinia*, with the next Canadian mail, left Vancouver for Yokohama, and this port on the 28th August.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The D. D. R. steamer *Friggera*, from Hamburg, left Singapore on the 6th instant, and is expected here on the 13th.

The Navigazione Generale Italiana Co.'s steamer *Nitagra*, left Singapore on the 8th instant, and is expected here on the 14th.

The China Shippers Mutual S. N. Co.'s steamer *Ningchow*, from Glasgow and Liverpool, left Singapore for this port on the 10th instant, and may be expected here on the 16th.

The Glen Line steamer *Glenlyle*, from London, left Singapore on the 11th instant, and is expected here on the 17th.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.

DJEMNAH, French steamer, 2,485, Vaquier, 11th Sept.,—Marselles 12th August, Alexandria 17th, Port Said 18th, Suez 19th, Aden 23rd, Colombo 30th, Singapore 5th Sept., and Saigon 8th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes.

BENIAR, British steamer, 1,482, Freeman, 11th Sept.,—Amoy 10th Sept., General.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

YANOTZSE, German steamer, 814, C. Tonningsen, 11th Sept.,—Shanghai 8th Sept., General.—Siemens & Co.

HAITAN, British steamer, 1,182, S. Ashton, 12th Sept.,—Fochow 8th Sept., Amoy 10th, and Swatow 11th, General.—D. Lapraik & Co.

SOCHEW, British steamer, 999, Hughes, 12th Sept.,—Whampoa 12th Sept., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

CANTON, British steamer, 1,110, J. Bremner, 12th Sept.,—Whampoa 12th Sept., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

TAISU, British steamer, 1,505, Jackson, 12th Sept.,—Calcutta 28th August, Penang 3rd Sept., and Singapore 5th, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.

Mefoo, Chinese steamer, for Swatow, &c., *Kong Beng*, British steamer, for Swatow, &c., *Triton*, German steamer, for Saigon.

Lady Harwood, British bark, for Whampoa.

Benary, British steamer, for Higo.

Thales, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.

DEPARTURES.

September 11, *Store Norditz*, Danish steamer, for a cruise.

September 11, *Tamsui*, British steamer, for Whampoa.

September 11, *Ingraham*, German steamer, for Whampoa.

September 12, *Activa*, Danish steamer, for Hoihow, &c.

September 12, *Fushiki Maru*, Japanese str., for Kuchichau.

September 12, *Cathay*, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.

September 12, *Achilles*, British steamer, for Amoy, &c.

September 12, *Thales*, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.

September 12, *Kong Beng*, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.

September 12, *Djemnah*, French steamer, for Shanghai.

September 12, *Triton*, German str., for Saigon.

September 12, *Mefoo*, Chinese steamer, for Swatow, &c.

September 12, *Benary*, British steamer, for Kobe, &c.

PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.

Per *Djemnah*, str., from Marselles for Hongkong.—Mr. L. Tornon. From Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Leleborne, Messrs. Tan Kin Guan, H. Mitchell, Sandrin, Moore, Tan King Chong, Tan Kik Kai, See Chong Eng, and 2 Chinese. From Saigon.—Mrs. Atahai, infant, Messrs. Tong Shing and Lo Min. For London via Marselles.—Mr. J. Whitall. From Yokohama for London.—Miss Wright.

Per *Kong Beng*, str., for Swatow, &c.—150 Chinese.

Per *Triton*, str., for Saigon.—50 Chinese.

Per *Thales*, str., for Swatow, &c.—1 European and 100 Chinese.

Per *Djemnah*, str., from Hongkong for Shanghai.—Messrs. MacClumont and servant, W. W. Clifford, G. Christy and servant, H. W. Richards, and Ten Cheong Tann. For Kobe.—Mr. Geo. B. Dodwell. For Yokohama.—Mr. Rocca and 7 Chinese.

Per *Mefoo*, str., for Swatow, &c.—10 Chinese.

Per *Orus*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon.—Mr. T. Benoit, and 4 Chinese. For Singapore.—Brother Vincent Roques and servant, Mr. E. J. Solomon, and 4 Chinese. For Marselles.—Messrs. Brimelow and Augusto Calisto. From Shanghai for Singapore.—Mr. J. Abraham. For Marselles.—Messrs. Ed. Gamman, E. Blumenthal, Dourian and servant, and Rev. R. P. Clerbeana. From Yokohama for Saigon.—Messrs. L. Leconte, L. Blanc, Lepanto, Julien, Gelabert, and Guillemin. For Singapore.—Messrs. Porchias, Seikichi, Vivanano. From Kobe for Saigon.—Mrs. Bonardel and Mr. L. Perrot. For Marselles.—Sister Bernardine.

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Per *Orus*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon.—Mr. T. Benoit, and 4 Chinese. For Singapore.—Brother Vincent Roques and servant, Mr. E. J. Solomon, and 4 Chinese. For Marselles.—Messrs. Brimelow and Augusto Calisto. From Shanghai for Singapore.—Mr. J. Abraham. For Marselles.—Messrs. Ed. Gamman, E. Blumenthal, Dourian and servant, and Rev. R. P. Clerbeana. From Yokohama for Saigon.—Messrs. L. Leconte, L. Blanc, Lepanto, Julien, Gelabert, and Guillemin. For Singapore.—Messrs. Porchias, Seikichi, Vivanano. From Kobe for Saigon.—Mrs. Bonardel and Mr. L. Perrot. For Marselles.—Sister Bernardine.

REPORTS.

The German steamer *Yangtze* reports that she left Shanghai on the 8th instant. Had moderate north-east winds and moderate sea.

The British steamer *Benary* reports that she left Amoy on the 10th instant at 5 p.m. Had moderate north-east winds and fine weather; arrived here at 10 p.m. on the 11th.

The British steamer *Falanga* reports that she left Calcutta on the 28th ultimo. Had strong wind, and thick rainy weather to Penang; arrived at Singapore on the 5th, and left again on the 6th. Had fresh winds and rain throughout; arrived here on the 12th at 2 p.m.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Verona*, with the next English mail, left Singapore for this port on the 11th instant, at 2 p.m., and may be expected here on or about the 17th.

The British steamer *Italian* reports that she left Fochow on the 8th instant at 10.30 a.m. for Amoy. Had strong north-east winds and fine clear weather with sea moderately smooth. Left Amoy on the 10th. From Amoy to Swatow had fresh east-north-east breeze and a heavy south-east swell. Left Swatow on the 11th. From Swatow to port had light south-east winds and cloudy weather with smooth sea. In Fochow, the steamships *Newchwang*, *Fuyao*, and *Hailong*. In Amoy, the steamships *Fomosa*, *Chigbo*, and *Parthia*. In Swatow, the steamship *Fushun*.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE.

For Europe, &c., Australia, India, via Madras.—Per *Orus*, to-morrow, the 13th instant, at 11.00 A.M.

For Saigon.—Per *Tetartus*, to-morrow, the 13th instant, at 1.30 P.M.

For Saigon.—Per *Falkenberg*, to-morrow, the 13th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, &c.—Per *Delcomyn*, to-morrow, the 13th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Straits and London.—Per *Benlarig*, to-morrow, the 13th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide.—Per *Airlie*, to-morrow, the 13th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Haiphong.—Per *Marie*, to-morrow, the 13th instant, at 5.30 P.M.

For Singapore and Sourabaya.—Per *Benalarig*, on Friday, the 14th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Straits, Colombo, and Bombay.—Per *Tetartus*, on Saturday, the 15th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Yokohama and San Francisco.—Per *City of Peking*, on Tuesday, the 18th instant, at 2.30 P.M.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.

AIRLIE, British steamer, 1,492, W. Ellis, 11th Sept.,—Fochow 4th Sept., Tea.—Russell & Co.

BENALARIG, British steamer, 1,331, R. W. Thomson, 6th Sept.,—Kobe 20th August, Coal and General.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

CITY OF PEKING, American steamer, 5,075, W. B. Senbury, 7th Sept.,—San Francisco 11th August, and Yokohama 1st Sept., Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

DELCOMYN, British steamer, 1,183, F. Ekins, 7th Sept.,—Fochow 4th Sept., General.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

FALKENBURG, German steamer, 988, W. Dreyer, 9th Sept.,—Saigon 5th September, General.—Melchers & Co.

FAME, British steamer, 1,177, A. Stopant.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

KHIVA, British steamer, 1,454, G. Crew, 9th Sept.,—Bombay 23rd August, and Singapore 3rd Sept., General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

MARIE, German steamer, 704, J. Hohlmann, 10th Sept.,—Haiphong 8th Sept., General.—A. R. Marty.

MEMNON, British steamer, 825, Dorff, 9th Sept.,—Sandakan 4th August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

MONKUT, British steamer, 860, Geo. Anderson, 6th Sept.,—Bangkok 31st August, Rice and General.—Yuen Fat Hong.

OXUS, French steamer, 2,350, Guirah, 11th Sept.,—Shanghai 8th Sept., Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes.

PHRA CHULA CHAM KLO, British steamer, 1,012, A. Benson, 11th Sept.,—Bangkok 4th Sept., Rice.—Yuen Fat Hong.

PILOT FISH, British steamer, 161, A. Stopant.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

RED SEA, British steamer, 2,165, Charles Barker, 31st August,—Kobe 23rd August, Rice.—Captain.

TAIYUAN, British steamer, 1,459, A. Varden, 5th September,—Wellington, N.Z., 4th August, Sydney 14th, Cape Moreton 18th, Sandy Cape 19th, Townsville 21st, Cooktown 22nd, and Thursday Island 25th, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

TARTAR, British steamer, 1,603, D. S. Bailey, 5th Sept.,—Manila 2nd Sept., General.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

TEHERAN, British steamer, 1,670, C. D. Sams, 10th Sept.,—Yokohama 1st Sept., Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

TITARTOS, German steamer, 1,578, T. Petersen, 7th Sept.,—Newcastle, N.S.W., Coals.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.

VICTORIA, British steamer, 1,530, John Coundon, 7th Sept.,—Nagasaki 2nd Sept., Coals.—Takamata Colliery Co.

ZAMBEZI, British steamer, 1,563, T. R. Tiddy, 5th Sept.,—Saigon 1st Sept., Rice.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

ADOLPH, German bark, 867, E. Westergaard, 5th Aug.,—Hamburg 19th April, General.—Order.

ANNA BERTHA, German bark, 400, H. Nielsen, 9th Sept.,—Keelung 28th August, Coals.—Order.

AUGUSTA, German bark, 475, J. Jensen, 9th Sept.,—Newchwang 5th August, Beans.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.

COMET, German ship, 1,083, Kaupner, 17th July,—Cardiff 4th April, Coals.—Order.

C. C. CHAPMAN, American ship, 1,600, A. J. Hichborn, 15th August,—Shanghai 16th July, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

EMMA CROWELL, American bark, 1,086, Pendleton, 10th Sept.,—Shanghai 29th August, General.—Russell & Co.

ERLEKONG, Chinese bark, 457, Opium Examination hulk, Stonecutters' Island.—Chinese Customs.

ESCOR, American bark, 636, R. G. Waterhouse, 15th July,—Hilo 30th July, General.—Chinese.

FRANCIS, American ship, 1,974, Geo. L. Bray, 10th Sept.,—San Francisco 18th July, Ballast.—Master.

GOLIAH, Siamese bark, 544, Chas. Simpson, 5th Sept.,—Bangkok 24th August, Wood.—Chinese.

HATTIE E. TAPLEY, British bark, 907, J. McConachy, 5th Sept.,—Sandakan 15th August, Timber.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

HEI-CHONG, British bark, 320, T. C. Thomsen, 4th Sept.,—Bangkok 12th August, Rice and General.—Kong Tong Tai.

H. G. JOHNSON, American bark, 1,017, L. N. Colby, 9th Sept.,—London 11th May, General.—Russell & Co.

LADY WILLIAMSON, British bark, 383, C. H. Williams, 10th Sept.,—Newchwang 8th August, Peat.—Chinese.

LAVENTIS, British brigantine, 351, C. Rogers, 10th Sept.,—Amoy 7th September, General.—Wheeler & Co.

LUCIA, British bark, 640, Wood, 5th August,—Freemantle (W. Australia) 11th July, Sandalwood.—Order.

MONROVIA, British ship, 1,492, H. Coming, 10th Sept.,—Shanghai 29th August, Ballast.—Siemens & Co.

NYL GHAR, British ship, 1,252, W. B. Butler, 1st August,—Samarang 20th July, Ballast.—Order.

WM. H. CONNER, American ship, 1,423, Butman, 10th Sept.,—Shanghai 28th August, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

STEAMERS EXPECTED IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.	FROM.	DATE DUE.	AGENTS.
Friggera	Hamburg	September 13th	Siemens & Co.
Benlarig	Singapore	September 13th	Carlowsitz & Co.
Ningchow	Liverpool	September 16th	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
Verona	London	September 17th	P. & O. S. N. Co.
Glenlyle	London	September 17th	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Arabic	San Francisco	September 18th	O. & O. S. S. Co.
Abyssinia	Vancouver	September 25th	Adamson, Bell & Co.

STEAMERS LOADING IN HONGKONG.

DESTINATION.	VESSELS.	AGENTS.	DATE OF LEAVING.
London, via Suez Canal	Jason	Butterfield & Swire	September 15th.
London	Benlarig	Gibb, Livingston & Co.	To-morrow, at 4 p.m.
Marselles, via Saigon, &c.	Oxus	Messageries Maritimes	To-morrow, at noon.
Bremen, via Ports of Call.	Braunschweig	Melchers & Co.	Sept. 27th, at 10 a.m.
Genoa, via Bombay, &c.	Disago	Carlowsitz & Co.	Sept. 21st, at noon.
San Francisco, via Y'hama	City of Peking	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	Sept. 18th, at 3 p.m.
Vancouver, B.C., via A.L.	Arabic	O. & O. S. S. Co.	Sept. 27th, at 3 p.m.
Sydney, Melbourne, &c.	Aberdeen	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Sept. 27th, at 3 p.m.
Sydney and Melbourne	Guthrie	Russell & Co.	September 2nd.
Straits, Colombo & Bombay	Delcomyn	Gibb, Livingston & Co.	To-morrow, at 4 p.m.
Yokohama, via N'saki, &c.	Tamsoi	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Sept. 15th, at noon.
Tientsin	Malwa	Butterfield & Swire	Sept. 26th, at 11 a.m.
Shanghai	Verona	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Sept. 17th, Quick despatch.
Shanghai, via Swatow	Canton	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	To-morrow, at 3 p.m.

Intimations.

IMPAIRED VISION.

LAWRENCE & MAYO'S PERFECT PEBBLES.



MR. LAWRENCE'S visit to HONGKONG will terminate on the 21ST INSTANT. HONGKONG HOTEL (Room 20). Hongkong, 1st September, 1888.

CONSULTATION FREE.

SPECTACLES & BLINDNESS.

The symptoms indicating failure or irregularities of sight are frequently too long disregarded and either from ignorance or feeling of diffidence, the aid demanded by nature is withheld until serious mischief has been caused to the sight, often resulting in blindness.

The following patients out of many hundreds have sent unsolicited acknowledgments of the benefit they have derived from the use of our Pebble Spectacles:—

The Earl & Countess Lindsay, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.

Lady Kemball, 79 Queen's Gate, London, S.W.

Lady Emily Digby, Coventry, England.

S. R. Groom, Esq., F.R.G.S., Barrister at Law, Singapore.

The Hon. E. E. Iscromonger, Col. Treasurer, Singapore.

R. Huddle, Esq., Deputy Master Attendant, Singapore.

Dr. Richard Bowman, L.R.C.P., Singapore.

J. R. Allan, Esq., Singapore.

Surgeon General W. Collis, M.D., India.

Major General Sir M. Biddulph, C.B., India.

Surgeon General A. E. Dale, M.D., India.

Major General Murray, C.B., India.

Brigade Surgeon J. A. Scott, M.D., India, &c.

For protection against sun and dust our Luculent Glare Protectors are strongly recommended by the leading Ophthalmic Surgeon.

"MILITARY MEN, ENGINEERS, PERMANENT WAY INSPECTORS, and those whose occupation compels them to be out in the heat of the day, will find these Glasses invaluable. By their use the eyes are kept cool, and dimness of vision, inflammation of the eyes and IRRITATIVE TEARS, consequent on over-exposure to the glare, are prevented."

LAWRENCE AND MAYO, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS. (Opticians to the Principal Ophthalmic Surgeons in England and India.) OFFICES:—OLD BOND STREET, London. 3 & 4 HARE STREET, Calcutta. 22 RAMPART ROW, Bombay.

MISSING.

FROM PEDDER'S HILL, A COCKATOO. The finder will oblige by returning it to the OFFICE OF THIS PAPER. Hongkong, 31st August, 1888.

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO., CHRONOMETER, WATCH, and CLOCK-MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER-SMITHS, and OPTICIANS. CHARTS and BOOKS. Sole Agents for Louis Audemars' Watches; awarded the highest Prizes at every Exhibition; and for Volkmann and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES, MARINE GLASSES, and SPYGLASSES. No. 8, Queen's Road Central. (607)

THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHIA. SOLE AGENTS FOR THE MIKE COAL MINE.

BUNKER COALS can be supplied to any Steamer lying in the harbour or coming alongside the KOWLOON WHARF on application to the Undersigned.

Y. FUKUHARA, Acting Manager. Hongkong, 19th January, 1888. (105)

HONGKONG TIMBER YARD, WANCHAI.

OREGON PINE SPARS and LUMBER Always on Hand. L. MALLORY, Proprietor. Hongkong, 24th June, 1881. (636)

JAPANESE BEER. FROM THE JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY, LIMITED, Yokohama. In Cases of 4 Dozen Quarts\$2.00 For Sale by LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 31st August, 1888. (854)

Intimations.

HONGKONG STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above Society will be held in the CITY HALL, on MONDAY EVENING the 17th inst., at 6 O'CLOCK, to receive the Committee's Report and Statement of Accounts, and to decide concerning the celebration of the forthcoming anniversary of St. Andrew.

D. H. MACKINTOSH, Hon. Secretary. Hongkong, 10th September, 1888. (1893)

THE FUNJOM AND SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, (LIMITED).

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRD ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 9 Queen's Road Central, on FRIDAY, the 21st September, 1888, at 4 P.M., for the purpose of receiving the report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Account and for the Election of Directors and Auditors.

A. O'D. GOURDIN, Secretary. Hongkong, 6th September, 1888. (881)

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Office of the undersigned, on SATURDAY, the 16th inst., at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, together with a Statement of Accounts to 10th June, 1888.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 12th to the 22nd September, both days inclusive. DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 10th September, 1888. (892)

THE STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL\$100,000 IN 2,000 SHARES OF \$50 EACH.

DIRECTORS. J. J. FRANCIS, Esq., Q.C. D. MCCULLOCH, Esq. A. WOOLLEY, Esq. H. J. HOLMES, Esq.

BANKERS. THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.